

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03303 222053 Z

71

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

ACDA-19 GAC-01 IO-12 EB-11 AID-20 OMB-01 IGA-02 RSR-01

/148 W

----- 125488

R 221439 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3327

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 3303

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO FROM AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, IN, PK, US

SUBJECT: REACTION TO MILITARY SALES TO PAKISTAN

REF: 3301

FOLLOWING ARTICLE ENTITLED " INDIA MAY RESPOND TO FRIENDLY MOVES
OF U. S. " BY G. K. REDDY APPEARED IN THE HINDU IN MADRAS ON
MARCH 21, 1973

NEW DELHI MARCH 20. THE U. S. AMBASSADOR. MR. DANIEL PATRICK
MOYNIHAN, CALLED ON THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, MR. SWARAN SINGH,
TODAY FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON INDO- AMERICAN RELATIONS IN
CONTINUATION OF THE TALK HE HAD WITH THE PRIME MINISTER LAST WEEK
ON THE SUBJECT.

MR. MOYNIHAN ALSO MET THE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER,
MR. P. N. DHAR, WHO WAS PRESENT AT HIS MEETING WITH MRS. GANDHI
ON MARCH 15, WHEN IT WAS AGREED THAT THEY SHOULD GET TOGETHER
SOON FOR A FOLLOW- UP DISCUSSION IN DEPTH ON SOME OF THE POINTS
RAISED BY EITHER SIDE ON THAT OCCASION.

IT WAS OFFICIALLY STATED AT THAT TIME THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAD
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NEW DE 03303 222053 Z

CONVEYED TO THE U. S. AMBASSADOR THE " CONCERN AND FEELINGS" OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE OVER THE RESUMPTION OF THE AMERICAN ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN AND MR. MOYNIHAN HAD ASSURED MRS. GANDHI IN RETURN THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD RECOGNISED THE " NEW REALITIES" IN THE SUB-CONTINENT AND TAKEN A " CONSCIOUS DECISION" NOT TO SUPPLY HENCE-FORTH ANY LETHAL WEAPONS TO ANY COUNTRY IN THE REGION AFTER CLEARING UP THE EARLIER COMMITMENTS TO PAKISTAN.

AT HIS TALKS WITH MR. SWARAN SINGH TODAY MR. MOYNIHAN CARRIED FORWARD THIS ASSURANCE WITH THE PLEA THAT INDIA SHOULD VIEW THIS LIMITED AMERICAN ARMS COMMITMENT TO PAKISTAN IN THE CONTEXT OF THE OVERALL U. S. POLICY ON THE SUBCONTINENT. HE WANTED INDIA TO FOCUS ITS ATTENTION ON THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE AMERICAN POLICY WHICH WAS VERY MUCH IN TUNE WITH ITS OWN APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE SUB- CONTINENT.

IN HIS FORMAL AND INFORMAL EXCHANGES WITH THE INDIAN OFFICIALS, THE NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY ASSURING THEM THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD NO DESIGNS OR ASPIRATIONS IN THE SUB-CONTINENT, IT WAS NOT ASKING FOR ANYTHING FROM INDIA OR DOING ANYTHING TO HARM ITS INTERESTS, IT HAD STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE SIMLA AGREEMENT AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD LEAD TO DURABLE PEACE IN THE REGION. HE HAS ALSO BEEN PLEADING THAT INDIA SHOULD SHED ITS INHIBITIONS AND BUILD UP A SOLID RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES IN MUTUAL INTEREST, WITHOUT EXAGGERATING THE ARMS ISSUE.

RESTRAINED INDIAN REACTION

MR. MOYNIHAN HAS, NO DOUBT, TAKEN DUE NOTE OF THE RELATIVELY RESTRAINED INDIAN REACTION OVER THE LATEST RESUMPTION OF AMERICAN ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN. THERE HAVE BEEN NO LEFTIST DEMONSTRATIONS OUTSIDE THE U. S. EMBASSY AND NO EFFIGIES OF MR. NIXON HAVE BEEN BURNT BEFORE IT. THE ONLY TOKEN PROTEST MARCH THAT IS BEING STAGED THIS TIME IS BY THE JAN SANGH TOMORROW. AND THE SHARP INDIAN REACTION TO THE WASHINGTON ANNOUNCEMENT HAS SUDDENLY SIMMERED DOWN

AFTER THE GOVERNMENT HAS VOICED ITS STRONG PROTESTS AND PUT THE UNITED STATES ON TRIAL AS IT WERE BY ACCEPTING THE AMERICAN ASSURANCE FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH THAT IT HAS NO INTENTION OF STARTING ANOTHER ARMS RACE IN THE SUB- CONTINENT.

THOUGH MR. MOYNIHAN HAS MADE A GOOD IMPRESSION BY COMMENCING UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NEW DE 03303 222053 Z

HIS DIFFICULT TASK ON A HOPEFUL NOTE, THE CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE THAT HAS BEEN CREATED BY THE STRANGE BEHAVIOUR OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION DURING THE BANGLADESH CRISIS STILL CONTINUES TO CLOUD THE ATMOSPHERE.

BUT OTHERWISE INDIA IS ALSO MOVING FORWARD STEP BY STEP IN A POSITIVE WAY TO GRASP THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP EXTENDED BY THE UNITED STATES. SOME RETHINKING IS GOING ON OVER THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY INDIA ON INDO- AMERICAN CULTURAL EXCHANGES IN THE WAKE OF THE 1971-72 EVENTS.

THE FINANCE MINISTER, MR. Y. B. CHAVAN, WHO LEFT FOR WASHINGTON TODAY TO ATTEND THE IMF COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR RESTRUCTURING THE WORLD MONETARY SYSTEM, EXTENDED A CAUTIOUS WELCOME TO THE RESUMPTION OF AMERICAN AID TO INDIA. HE IS EXPECTED TO MEET SOME SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE NIXON CABINET DURING HIS STAY IN WASHINGTON TO PURSUE THE MATTER FURTHER IN THE LIGHT OF THE TALKS MR. HMOYNIHAN HAS HAD IN DELHI.

THE OVER- ALL IMPRESSION THAT HAS BEEN CREATED HERE BY THE NEW U. S. AMBASSADOR'S EFFORTS TO PUT BACK THE INDO- AMERICAN RELATIONS ON AN EVEN KEEL IS THAT IT IS GOING TO BE A LONG- DRAWN OPERATION WITH THE TWO SIDES EDGING CLOSER OVER SPECIFIC ISSUES, WHILE CONTINUING TO VENTILATE THEIR PERSISTING DIFFERENCES OVER THE MORE BASIC PROBLEMS OF BILATERAL COOPERATION. IT WILL NOT BE EASY TO SHED THE HANG- OVERS OF THE BANGLADESH CRISIS OVERNIGHT, NO MATTER HOW FUTILE IT IS TO KEEP ON RAKING UP THE PAST TO NO POSITIVE PURPOSE. MOYNIHAN

UNCLASSIFIED

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NEWDE03303
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730334/aaaaicjp.tel
Line Count: 147
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 3301
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Nov-2001 by elbezejf>; APPROVED <07 FEB 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971217
Subject: REACTION TO MILITARY SALES TO PAKISTAN
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, IN, PK, US
To: NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005